

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
 (Only for nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Prior application: 10/213,861  
 Examiner: UNKNOWN  
 Art Unit: 1744

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, DC 20231  
 Box PATENT APPLICATION

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) of pending prior application U.S. Serial No. 10/213,861 which was filed August 7, 2002 and remains pending. That application is, in turn, a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/759,437 which was filed on January 12, 2001 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,532,621 on March 18, 2003;

of Paul D. Stephens, Jeffrey M. Kalman, Steven J. Paliobeis, and Charles J. Thur

Entitled: VACUUM CLEANER WITH NOISE SUPPRESSION FEATURES

Enclosed are:

- ☒ 16 sheets of specification, 5 sheets of claims, 1 sheet of Abstract.
- ☒ 8 sheets of formal drawings, Figures 1-7.
- ☒ Copy of an assignment of an invention to Royal Appliance Mfg. Co. as originally filed in the prior application
- ☒ Copy of a Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application as originally filed in the prior application
- ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449
- ☐ Letter

CLAIMS AS FILED				
FOR	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	69 - 20 =	-49-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$18 LARGE <input type="checkbox"/> \$09 SMALL	\$ 882
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	5 - 3 =	-2-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$86 LARGE <input type="checkbox"/> \$43 SMALL	\$ 172
BASIC FEE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LARGE ENTITY \$770 <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL ENTITY \$385				
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$1,824

☒ A check in the amount of \$1,824.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☒ Priority of U.S. application U.S. Serial No. 10/213,861 which was filed August 7, 2002 and remains pending. That application is, in turn, a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/759,437 which was filed on January 12, 2001 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,532,621 on March 18, 2003.

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that this Utility Patent Application Transmittal Letter and accompanying papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 30, 2003. EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 329368934 US

*Kathleen A. Nimricher*  
 Kathleen A. Nimricher

*December 30, 2003*  
 Date

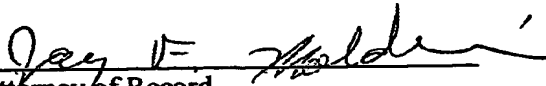
22141 U.S. PTO  
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[XX] The power of attorney in the prior application is to Patrick R. Roche, Reg. No. 29,580 at Fay, Sharpe, Fagan, Minnich and McKee, LLP. A copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed. Please address all future communications to:

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